

PROJECT SUMMARY

County: Plumas, Sierra, Nevada

Applicant: Resources Legacy Fund on behalf of Northern Sierra Partnership

Project Title: Collaborative Land Conservation and Conservation Capacity

PROJECT GOAL

The Northern Sierra Partnership – comprising the Feather River Land Trust (FRLT), Sierra Business Council (SBC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Truckee Donner Land Trust (TDLT), and the Trust for Public Land (TPL)– represents a new alliance of conservation organizations dedicated to the region's future and committed to a rapid collaborative action plan to conserve the northern Sierra's most valuable lands and waters through land protection, restoration, strategic initiatives and community enhancement projects throughout the region by working with private landowners, government agencies, collaborating organizations, and local communities. Through an SNC grant, the partnership seeks to continue regular participation of its local partners and support staff time for advancing key conservation projects.

PROJECT SCOPE

While the partners have made good progress identifying and securing initial private funding to help support land protection and project implementation, the costs of developing and launching this new venture are not trivial, particularly for the three local groups -- FRLT, SBC, and TDLT. The participation of these three groups is vital to the success of the partnership given their knowledge of the area, local relationships, and engagement in community-based projects. At the same time, the local partners benefit from the collaboration with TNC and TPL who provide fundraising, government relations, and transaction expertise and experience. Together, the participating organizations have each invested considerable time over the past year to develop innovative partnership agreements to guide joint fundraising, financial management, and resource allocation, including a novel approach to setting priorities for projects across organizational lines. In addition, the partners are working cooperatively to advance numerous land transactions that will protect critical and diverse habitat and natural and community resource values.

The partnership is seeking support to continue the three local partners' active and regular participation in this collaborative process which will also advance their expertise and resource base. In addition, a Sierra Nevada Conservancy grant will support staff time for negotiating, performing due diligence, and completing land transactions that protect at least 4,500 acres during the grant term through easements or acquisitions and continued negotiations on several more. Finally, NSP will engage in the Plumas National Forest management plan update.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Each NSP partner organization supports and approves submission of this application. Separate letters of support were not prepared.

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Continue NSP participation	February 2009 through February 2010
Complete protection of 4,500 acres	February 2009 through February 2010
Plumas National Forest management update participation	February 2009 through February 2010

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
INCLUDE COSTS FOR STAFF, TASKS, DELIVERABLES AND PROJECT PERFORMANCE MEASURES	
Staff	\$172,500
Travel	\$7,500
Administration	\$10,000
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$190,000